



January / February 2007 Newsletter

Meetings of the Iowa Afterschool Alliance.

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance meets monthly via ICN unless otherwise noted. Meetings are open to anyone interested in afterschool issues.

Please RSVP for any of these events to Rachel Lynch at rlynch@sppg.com or 515-243-2000.

Please mark your calendar for the following other meetings:

February 13, 2007 9:30am-12pm

Afterschool Advocacy Training

United Way Human Services Campus, Des Moines

Learn more about the Iowa Afterschool Alliance's 2007 Policy Agenda and how you can help educate policymakers about the benefits of afterschool.

March 9, 2007

9:30am-12pm

Iowa Afterschool Alliance Steering Committee Meeting

Waterloo, Philanthropy Center, third floor of the US Bank Building, 425 Cedar Street

The Steering Committee will meet in Waterloo for regular business and to discuss an upcoming planning grant opportunity for the state and the adoption of a formalized governance structure for the Alliance. For those who cannot make it to Waterloo, a conference line will be available. Call 515-237-0345, passcode 2432000.

March 15, 2007

7:30am-9:00am

Afterschool Day on the Hill, Iowa State Capitol

Legislative Dining Room

Join afterschool advocates from around the state in speaking with legislators about the need for afterschool programs in Iowa.

Mark Your Calendar!

February 20, 2007

7:30-9:00am

Iowa Community Education Association Legislative Breakfast, Iowa State Capitol, Room 116

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance (IAA) Newsletter is a monthly venue of information and updates on afterschool programs and policies. For more information, please contact Rachel Scott at rscott@sppg.com or 515-243-2000.

February 28, 2007 7:30-9:00am
The Chrysalis Foundation's SOLUTIONS Legislative Breakfast,
Iowa State Capitol, Room 116
RSVP to Chrysalis by
February 23 at 515-255-1853
or info@chrysalisfdn.org.

March 30, 2007 11:30am-1:00pm
Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs "PB&J" Legislative Luncheon, Iowa State Capitol, Room 116

Seeking High Quality Programs to Present Data to Iowa General Assembly

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance is seeking afterschool programs to attend or present program outcomes to the Joint Education Appropriations Subcommittee in late February. Unfortunately, only a few programs will be able to present, but it would be advantageous to show a lot of support for afterschool. Children, youth, and parents would be especially welcome. The time and date have not yet been determined by the Subcommittee. If you are interested in attending or presenting, please email Rachel Scott at rlynch@sppg.com

21st Century Community Learning Center (CLC) Grants Available

Applications are now available for 21st CCLC grants. Deadline of March 8, 2007 by 4:30 p.m.

Applications are now being taken for 21st CCLC before and afterschool grants. These grants are designed for the development of high quality before and afterschool or out-of-school time programs at the local level by providing federal funds to local school districts, nonprofit organizations, faith-based, community-based and other public and private organizations who qualify (see eligible list in grant application).

Go to the Iowa Department of Education website for more information:

<http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/view/833/526/>

New Resources from the Afterschool Investments Project

More products have been added to the Afterschool Investments website:

<http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/afterschool/>.

The Afterschool Investments project, a Child Care Bureau-supported initiative, provides technical assistance to Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) grantees and other State and local leaders to support afterschool efforts. The Finance Project and the National Governor's Association Center for Best Practices serve as technical assistance providers and have developed the following new resources:

Promoting Physical Activity and Healthy Nutrition in Afterschool Settings: Strategies for Program Leaders and Policymakers

This strategy brief outlines the important role that afterschool programs can play in efforts to prevent childhood obesity and includes ideas for incorporating nutrition and fitness into afterschool programming, strategies for financing these efforts, and examples of policies that can support and encourage the afterschool community's endeavors to steer children toward healthy choices.

The full report is now available online at: http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/afterschool/fitness_nutrition.pdf

Linking and Learning: Lessons for Afterschool from Early Childhood System-Building Efforts

While early care and afterschool providers serve different populations with distinct needs, there are many similarities in the infrastructure and supports they need to succeed. This paper describes eleven lessons that the afterschool community may learn from the system-building efforts in the field of early care and education. This publication is available at:

http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/afterschool/linking_learning.pdf

New Music Program Affirms Maturity and Talent in DSM Area Youth

Music in the Metro is a new program through the Boys and Girls Club of Central Iowa that is teaching kids in and beyond the Making Connections neighborhoods about the music industry. Rick Galbreath, founder and

CEO of the program, is currently working with 25 kids to teach them hands-on the wide range of professional opportunities available. Des Moines metro youths grades 6 and over are eligible for Music in the Metro, and participants must maintain a C average in school. Programs are currently offered through Boys and Girls Clubs located at First Christian Church, 2500 University, and McCombs Middle School, 201 SW County Line Road. A short promotional video is available for viewing at Music in the Metro's web site www.musicinthemetro.com.

"We teach kids how to work with recording equipment, produce, write a song, and read contracts," he said. Galbreath himself has been involved in the music industry for the past 25 years, and started the Des Moines based program a year ago. Galbreath felt confident that he had developed a program that would appeal to kids, but was surprised with the actual results. "In a matter of a few weeks, I've seen some kids grades go from D's to B's, and F's to C's," he said. "Every day I have an experience where someone tells me they feel they can do better just knowing that someone believes in them."

For more information about Music in the Metro contact Rick Galbreath at 515-240-2296, or on the web at www.musicinthemetro.com. The program is currently sponsored by Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Iowa, and Des Moines Area Community College, with additional technical assistance provided by Making Connections.